

—STAR WARS—
DARK DROIDS
BOUNTY HUNTERS

First, It Comes
for the **Metal...**

...Then, It Comes for
Everything Else!



T'onga and the bounty hunters have failed to save Valance from the erasure of his memories and, with them, his last vestige of humanity. With one of the most formidable cyborgs in the galaxy in the hands of a dangerous foe, the only option left is for the heroes to hunt down Valance--and kill him before he can wreak havoc!

Tensions are mounting aboard the *Enigma Catalyst* as hopes fade.

But unbeknownst to the crew, there may be one last chance for salvation....

STAR WARS BOUNTY HUNTERS

THE PATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS, PART 4

ETHAN SACKS
WRITER

DAVIDE TINTO
ARTIST

ARIF PRIANTO
COLOR ARTIST

VC's TRAVIS LANHAM
LETTERER

MARCO CHECCHETTO & MARCIO MENYZ COVER ARTISTS
BEN HARVEY; ROD REIS (LIFE DAY) VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

**NICK
RUSSELL**
PRODUCTION DESIGN

**MIKEY J.
BASSO**
ASSISTANT EDITOR

**DANNY
KHAZEM**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**MARK
PANICCIA**
EDITOR

**C.B.
CEBULSKI**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

FOR LUCASFILM:

ROBERT SIMPSON
SENIOR EDITOR

GRACE ORRISS
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MICHAEL SIGLAIN
CREATIVE DIRECTOR

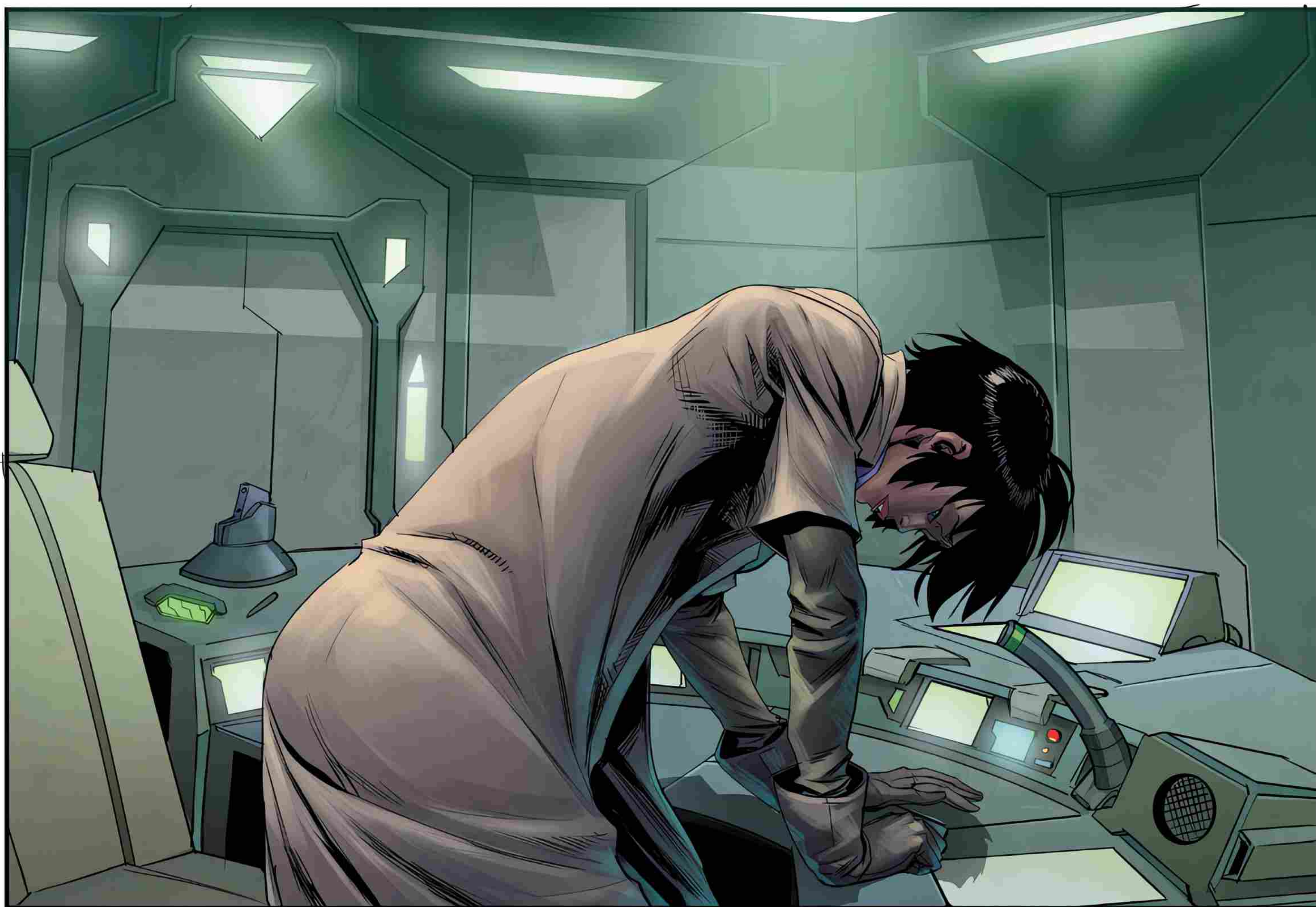
TROY ALDERS
ART DIRECTOR

**MATT MARTIN,
PABLO HIDALGO &
EMILY SHKOUKANI**
LUCASFILM STORY GROUP

**PHIL
SZOSTAK**
CREATIVE ART
MANAGER

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The Enigma Catalyst.
Somewhere in the Outer Rim.



LOSHA... I
DON'T KNOW IF
YOU'RE LISTENING
TO THESE
MESSAGES.

BUT
THERE'S A GOOD
CHANCE THIS
COULD BE MY
LAST ONE.

AND I
WANTED TO
TELL MY WIFE
THAT I LOVE
HER.



I KNOW
WE DIDN'T PART
ON THE BEST OF
TERMS.*

BUT
I HOPE YOU
UNDERSTAND
WHY I DID WHAT
I DID...WHY I
LEFT YOU
BEHIND.

WHERE
WE WERE
GOING WAS
DANGEROUS--

*BOUNTY
HUNTERS #34.

--AND I
COULDN'T BEAR TO LOSE
YOU. I'VE LOST SO MANY
PEOPLE I CARE ABOUT
ALREADY.

MY BROTHER.
MY MENTOR. AND
NOW MY FRIEND.

VALANCE'S
MIND IS GONE.
HE'S NOW JUST
A **KILLING
MACHINE.**

WE WERE
ABLE TO TRACK
HIM DOWN TO
THE PLANET
EPIKONIA.

I
COULDN'T
SAVE HIM--

--BUT
HIS LAST WISH
WAS TO TAKE HIM
DOWN BEFORE HE
COULD HARM
INNOCENTS.

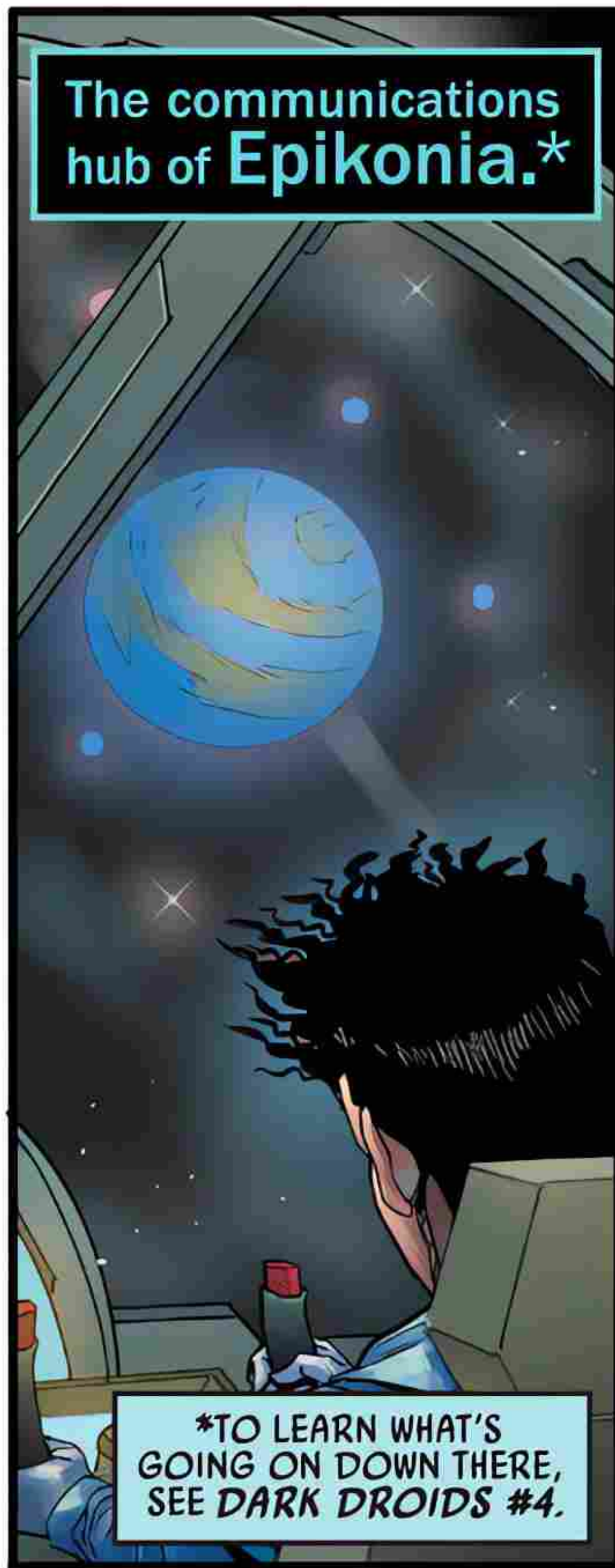
SO THAT'S
WHAT WE'RE
GOING TO
DO.

WE'RE
HERE,
T'ONGA.

PERFECT
TIMING. JUST HAD
TO SEND A QUICK
TRANSMISSION TO...
SYPHACC.

IT'SSSS
NOT TOO
LATE TO CUT OUR
LOSSSSSSSSSSS
AND GET THE
KRIFF OUT
OF HERE.

NO, **BOSSK.**
WE ARE SEEING
THIS THROUGH...
TO THE END.



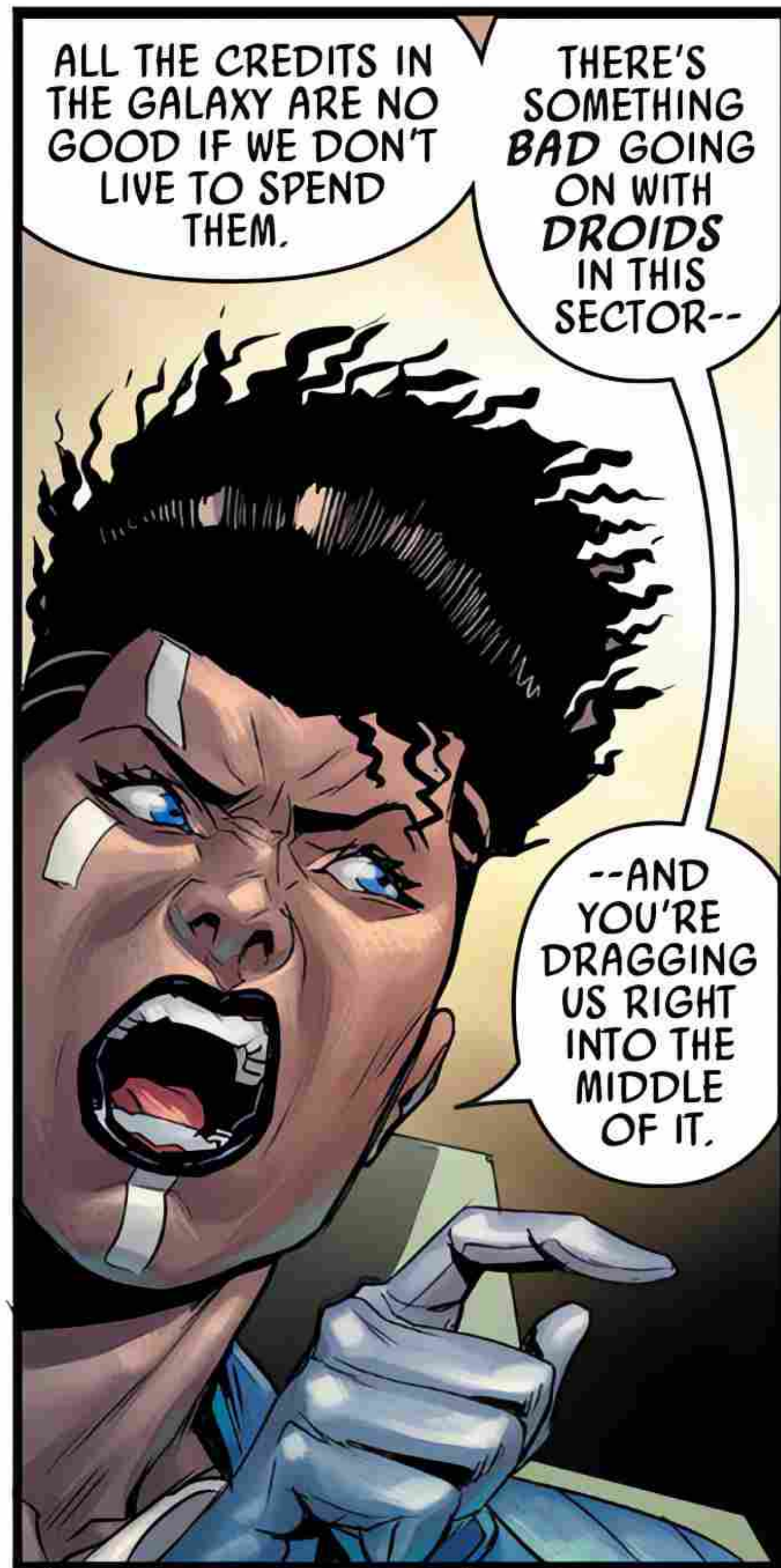
The communications hub of **Epikonia**.*

*TO LEARN WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE, SEE **DARK DROIDS** #4.



THIS ISN'T WHAT WE SIGNED UP FOR.

WHAT ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT? YOU'RE GETTING PAID FOR YOUR TROUBLE.



ALL THE CREDITS IN THE GALAXY ARE NO GOOD IF WE DON'T LIVE TO SPEND THEM.

THERE'S SOMETHING **BAD** GOING ON WITH **DROIDS** IN THIS SECTOR--

--AND YOU'RE DRAGGING US RIGHT INTO THE MIDDLE OF IT.

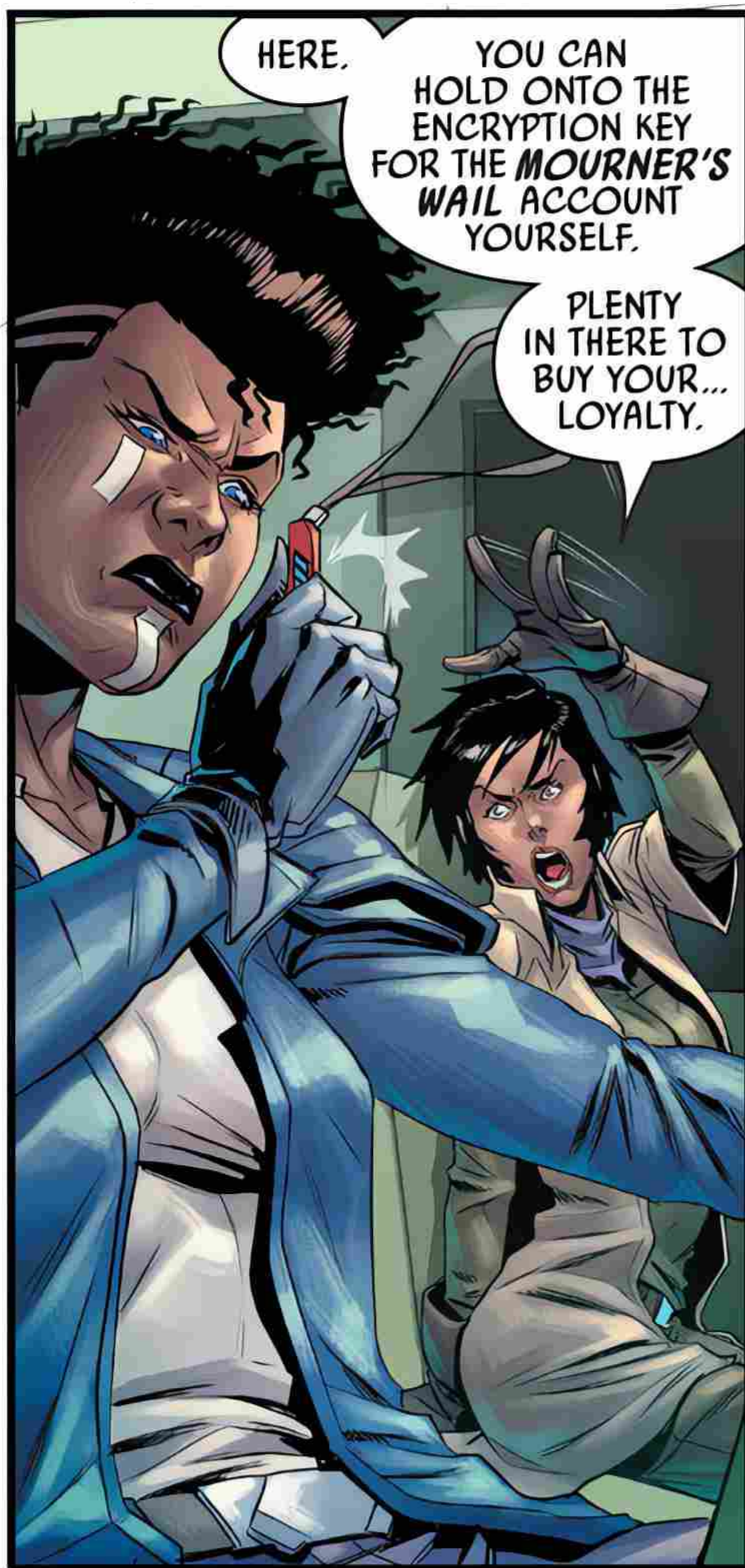


CAN'T EVEN BE SURE VALANCE WAS TAKEN HERE...

WE GOT THESE COORDINATES FROM KLIGSON'S OWN DEPUTY-- **TELEMAK**.

YOU'LL GET YOUR MONEY WHEN THIS IS DONE.

I'M SUPPOSED TO TAKE THAT ON TRUST... FROM YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE?



HERE.

YOU CAN HOLD ONTO THE ENCRYPTION KEY FOR THE **MOURNER'S WAIL** ACCOUNT YOURSELF.

PLENTY IN THERE TO BUY YOUR... LOYALTY.



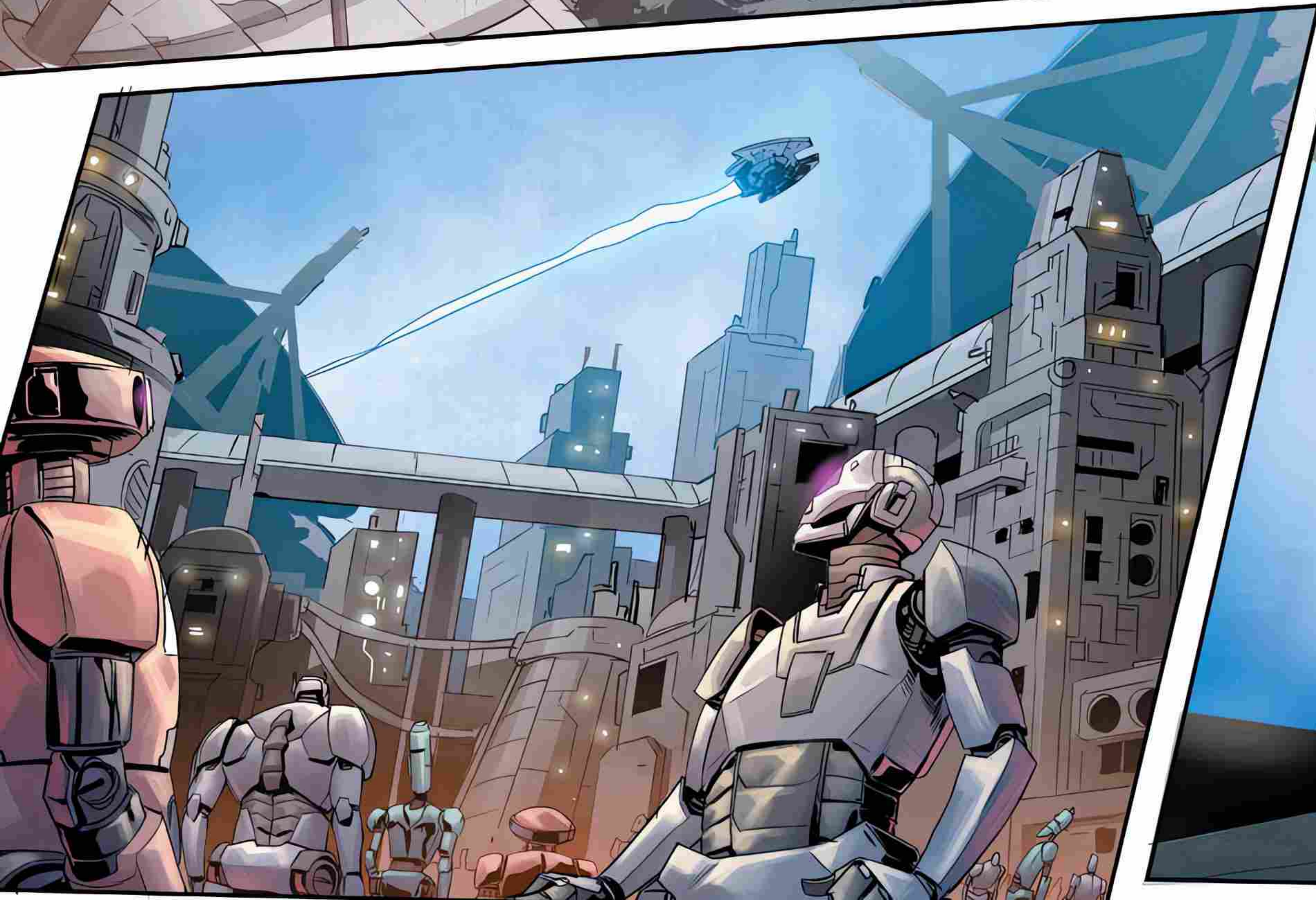
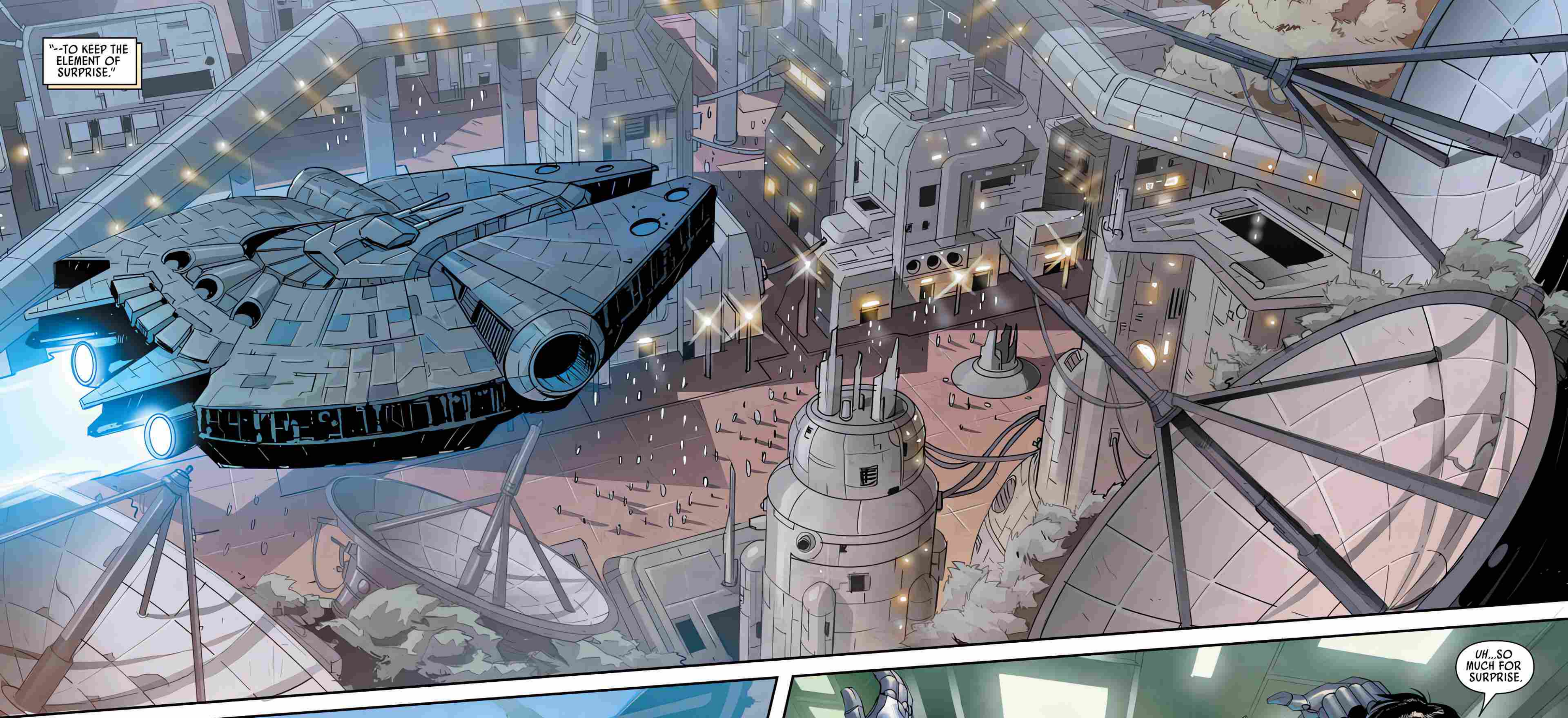
BUT BEFORE YOU THINK OF BACKSTABBING ME, YOU NEED THE SECRET CODE TO UNLOCK IT.

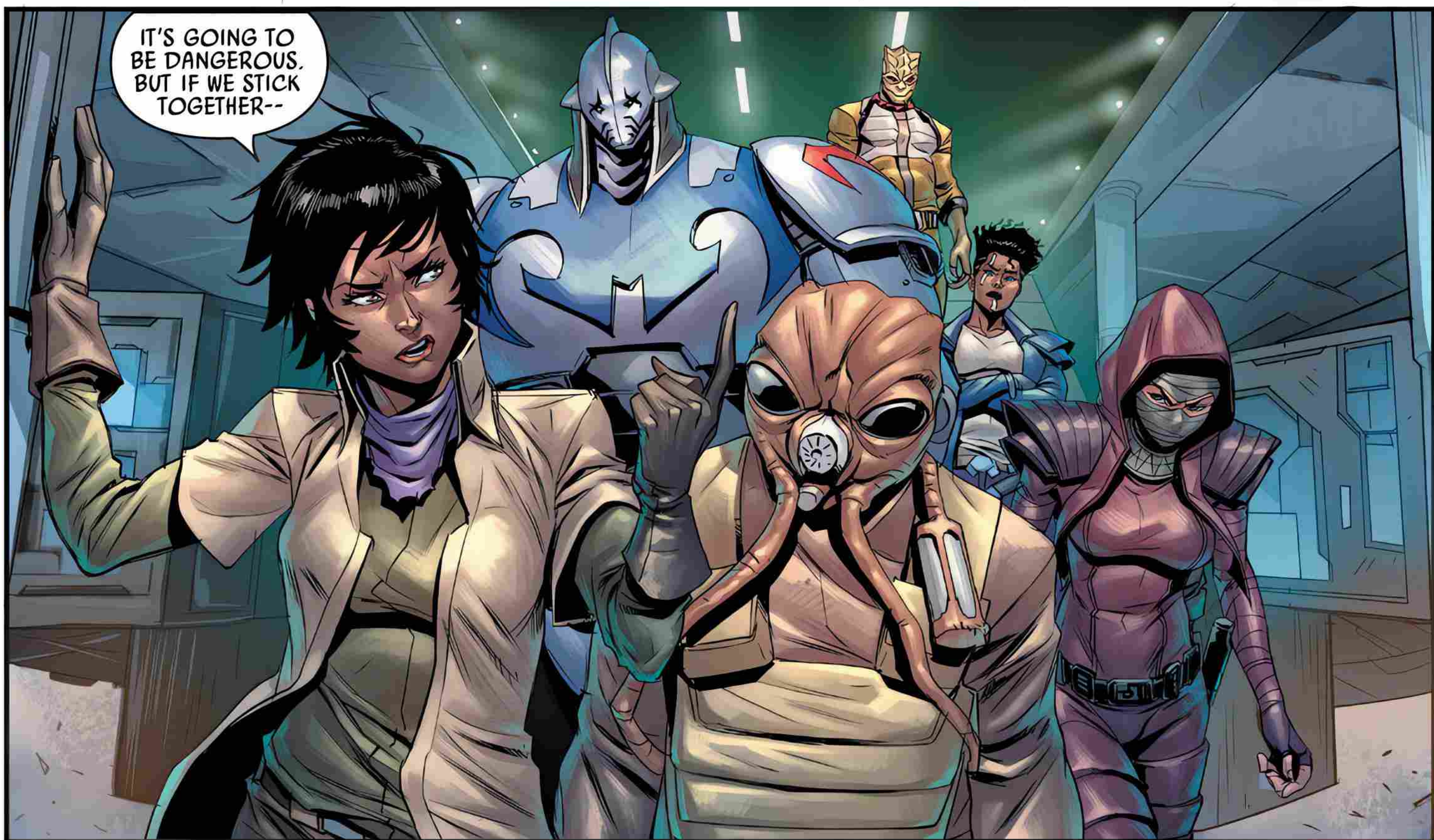
WHICH MEANS YOU NEED **ME**.



NOW LET'S CALL THE OTHERS.

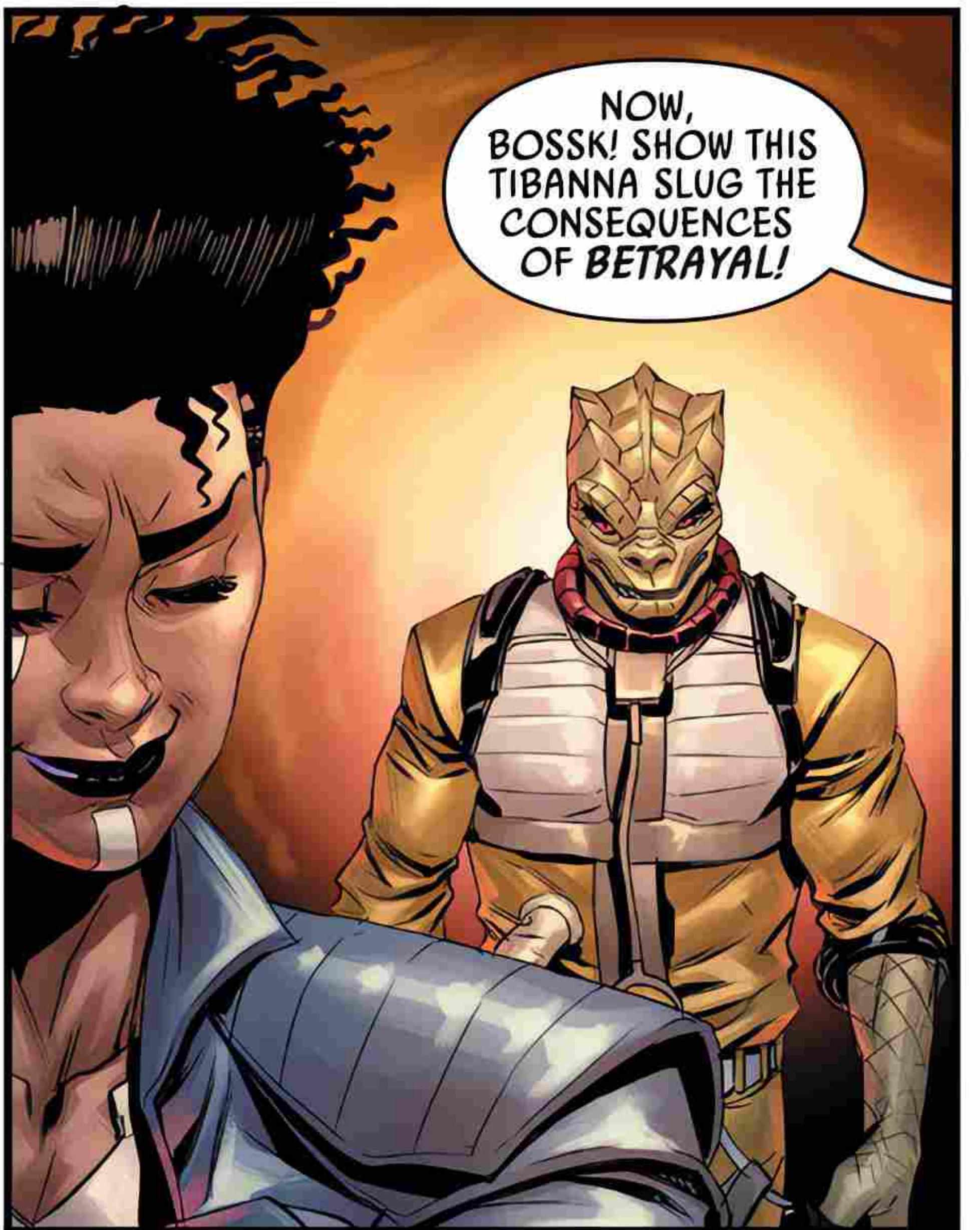
WE'LL NEED TO MOVE FAST--

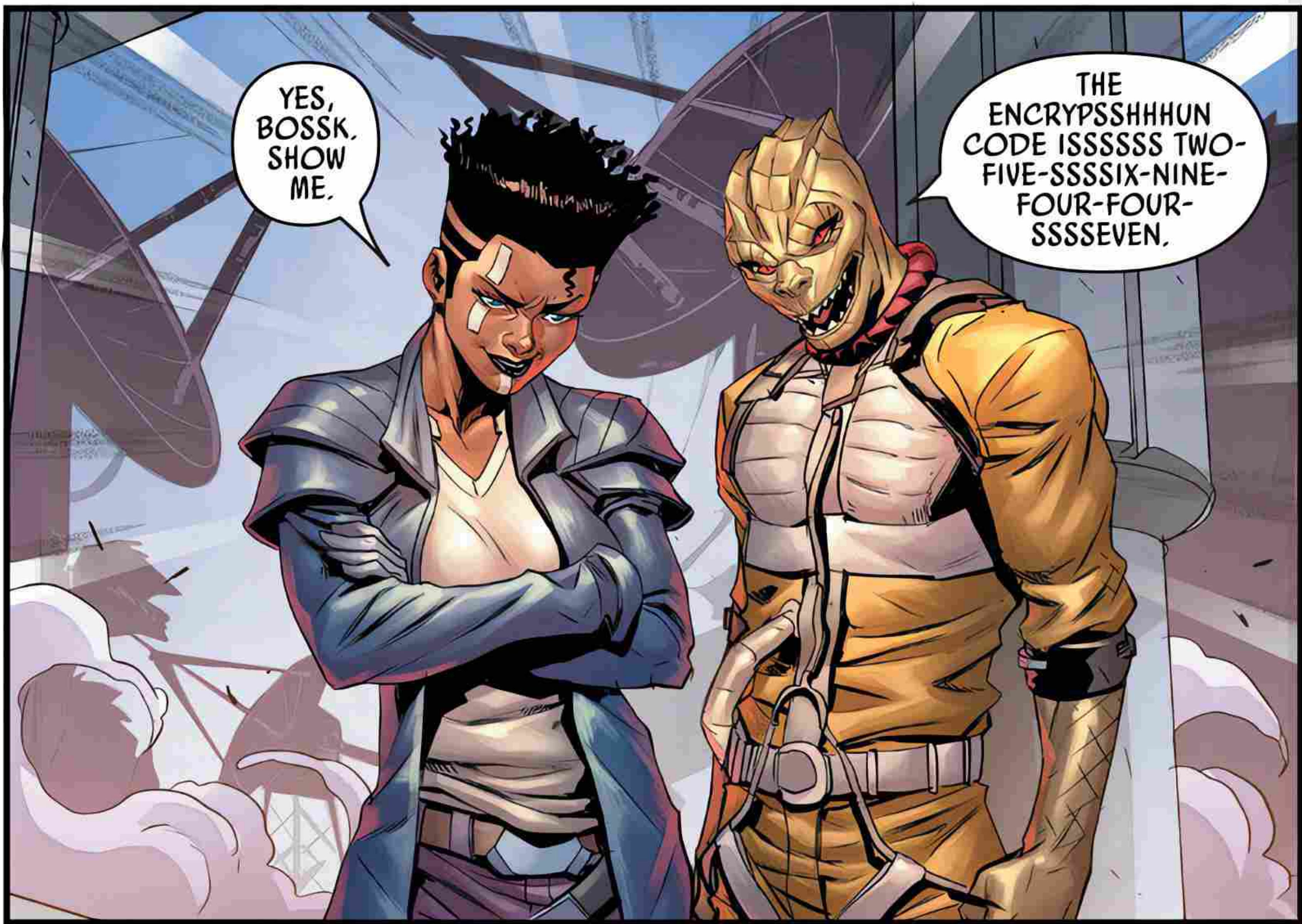






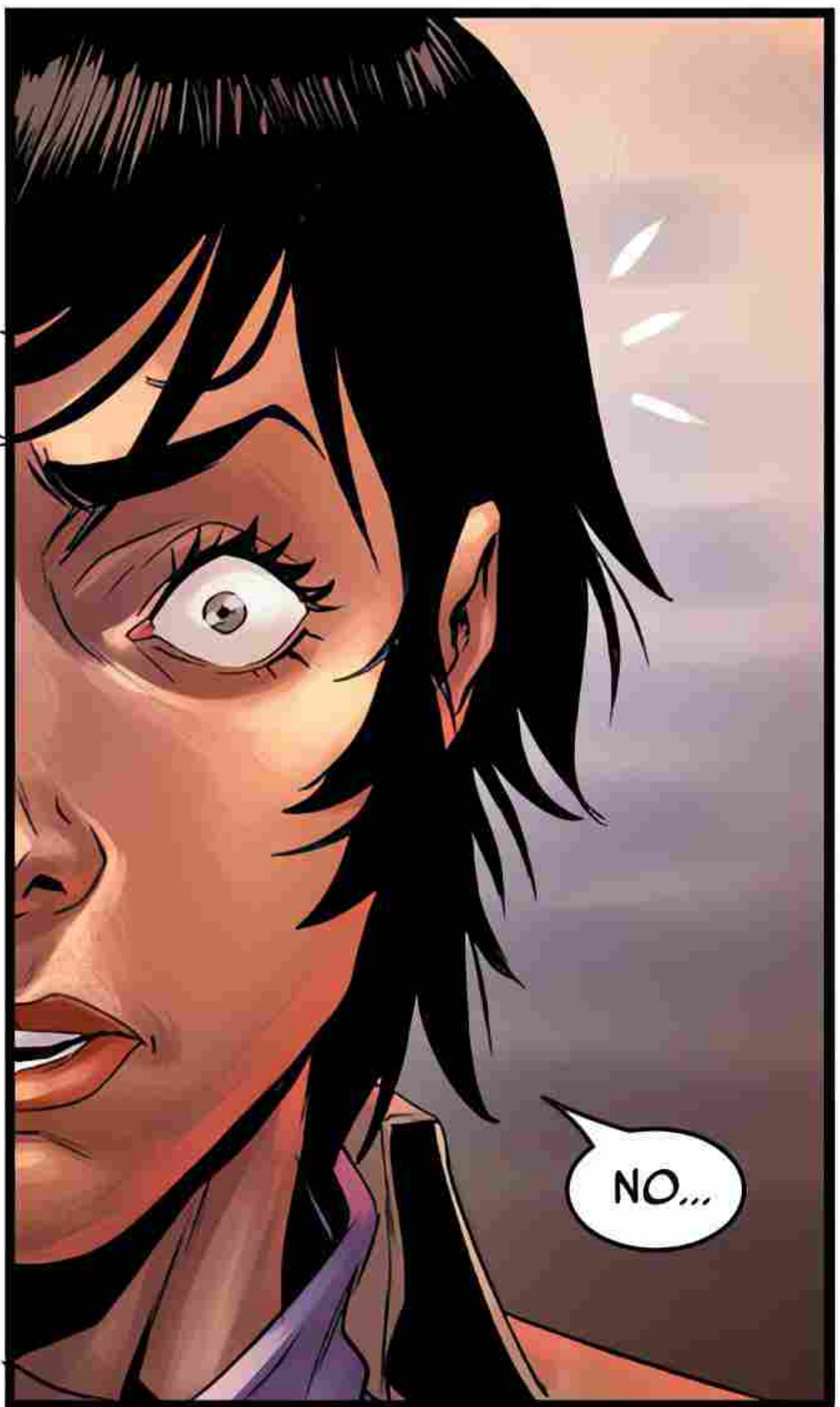
NOOOO!





YES,
BOSSK.
SHOW
ME.

THE
ENCRYPSSHHHUN
CODE ISSSSSS TWO-
FIVE-SSSSIX-NINE-
FOUR-FOUR-
SSSEVEN.



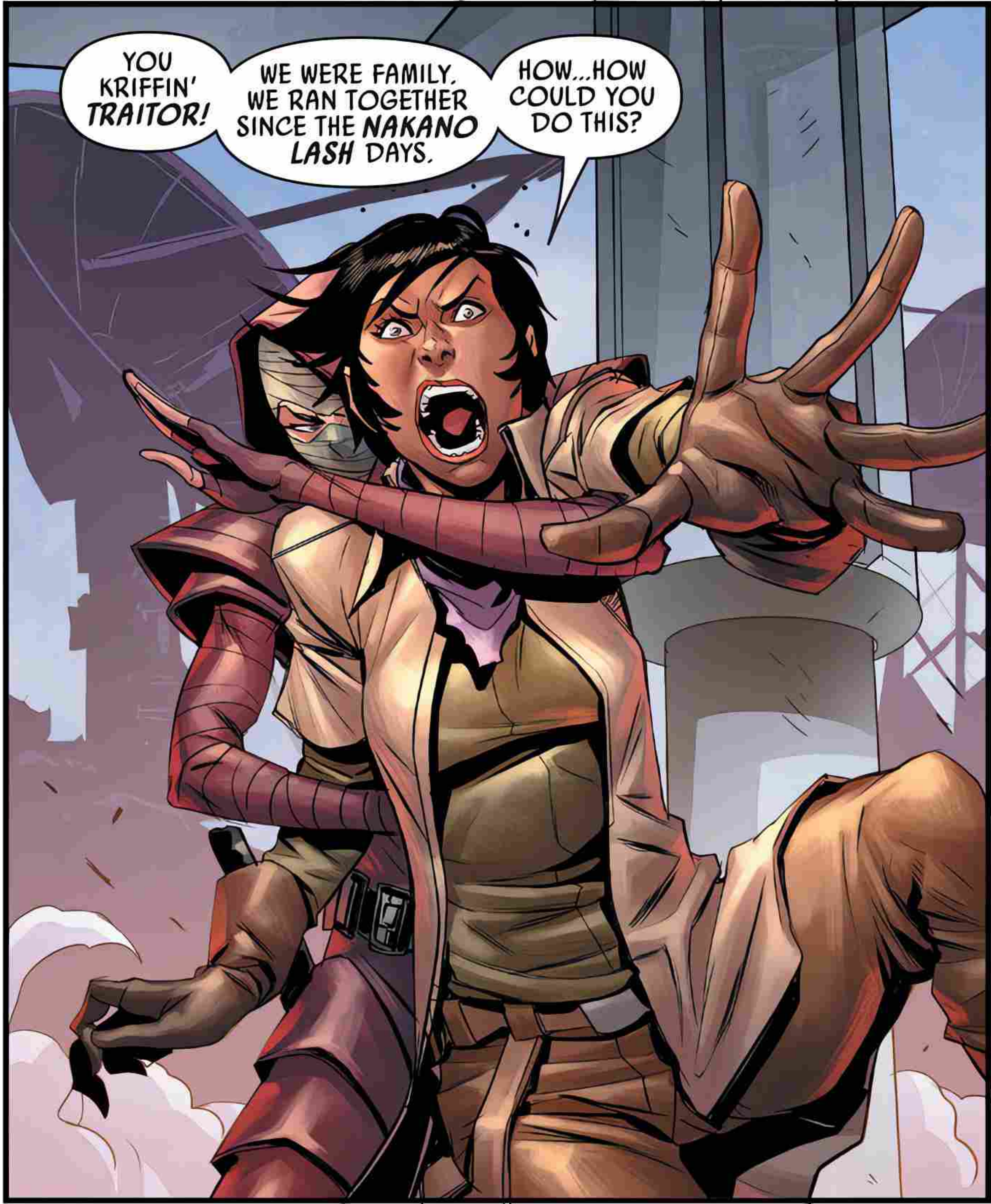
NO...



I'VE
SSSPIED ON YOU
INPUTTING IT OVER
THESSSE PASSST
MONTHSSSS--

--BECAUSSSE
I KNEW THISSS
CREW WASSSSN'T
GOING TO
LASSST.

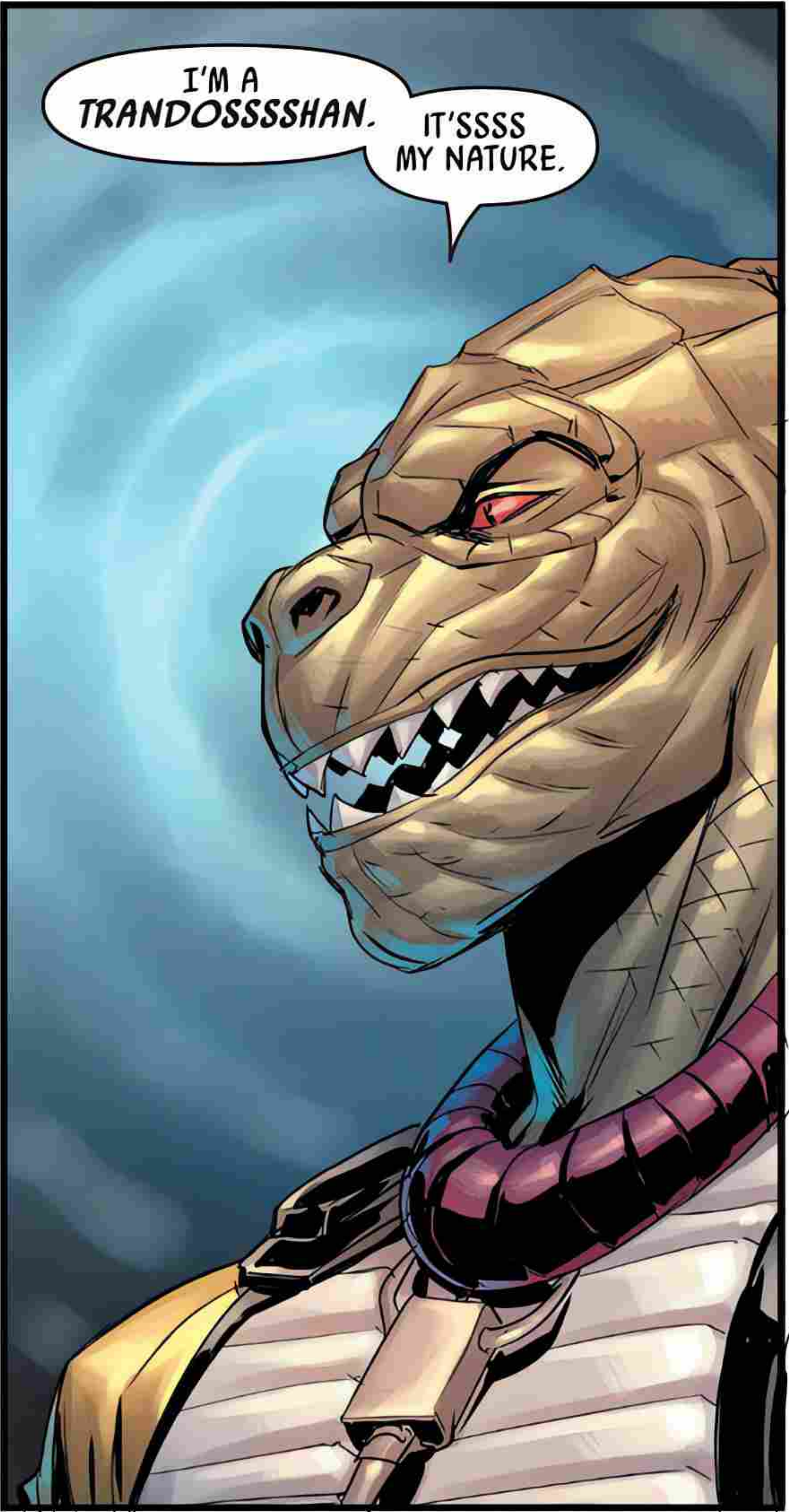
THEY
NEVER
DO.



YOU
KRIFFIN'
TRAITOR!

WE WERE FAMILY.
WE RAN TOGETHER
SINCE THE *NAKANO*
LASH DAYS.

HOW...HOW
COULD YOU
DO THIS?



I'M A
TRANDOSSSSHAN.

IT'SSSS
MY NATURE.

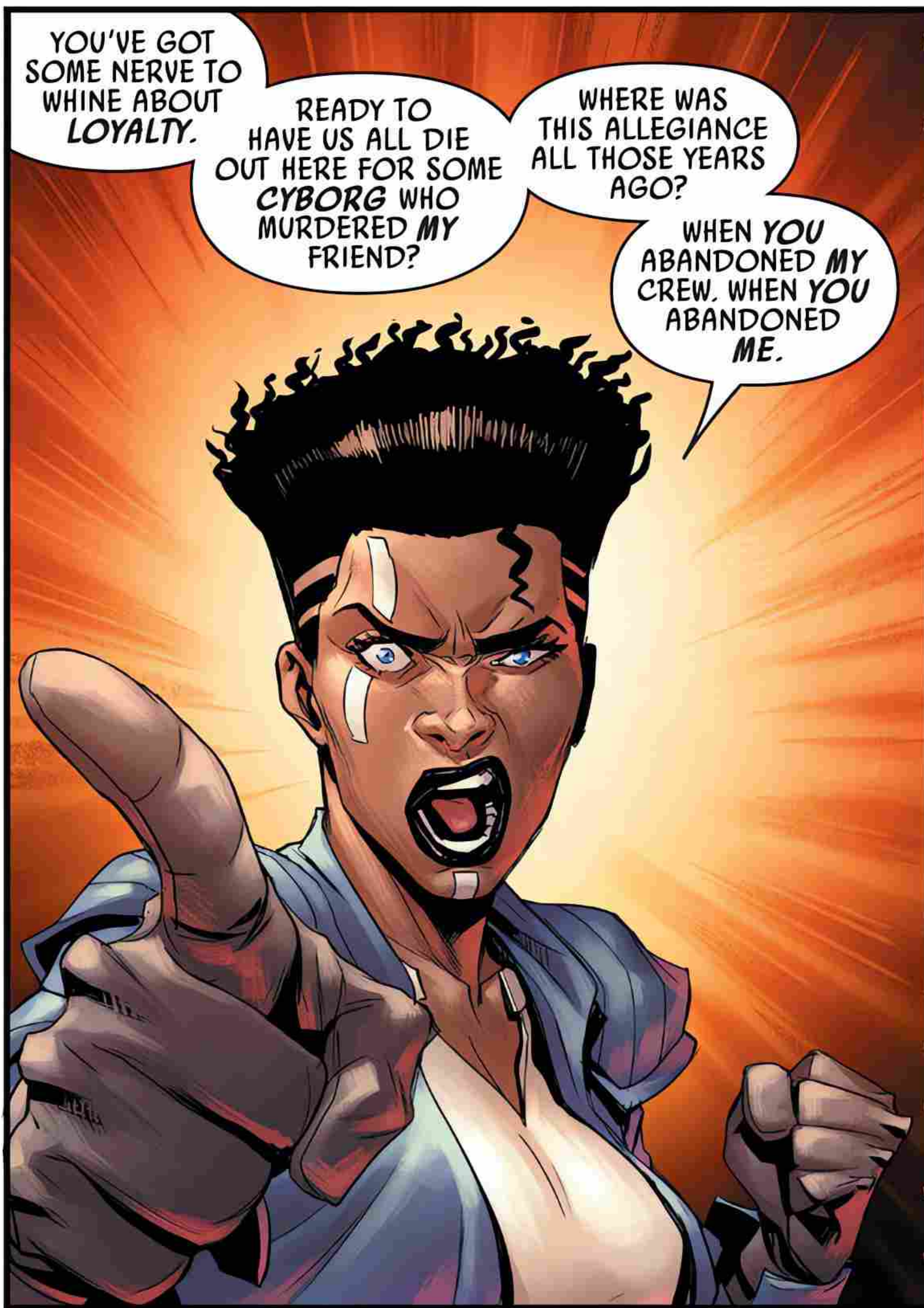


NEVER MIND ME, YOU WOULD ABANDON VALANCE... HERE?

AFTER HE SACRIFICED HIMSELF TO SAVE YOU?

WE TRIED. HE'SSSSS GONE.

WE'RE SSSSSUPPOSED TO BE HUNTING BOUNTIESSSS. NOT LOSSST CAUSSSSSESS.

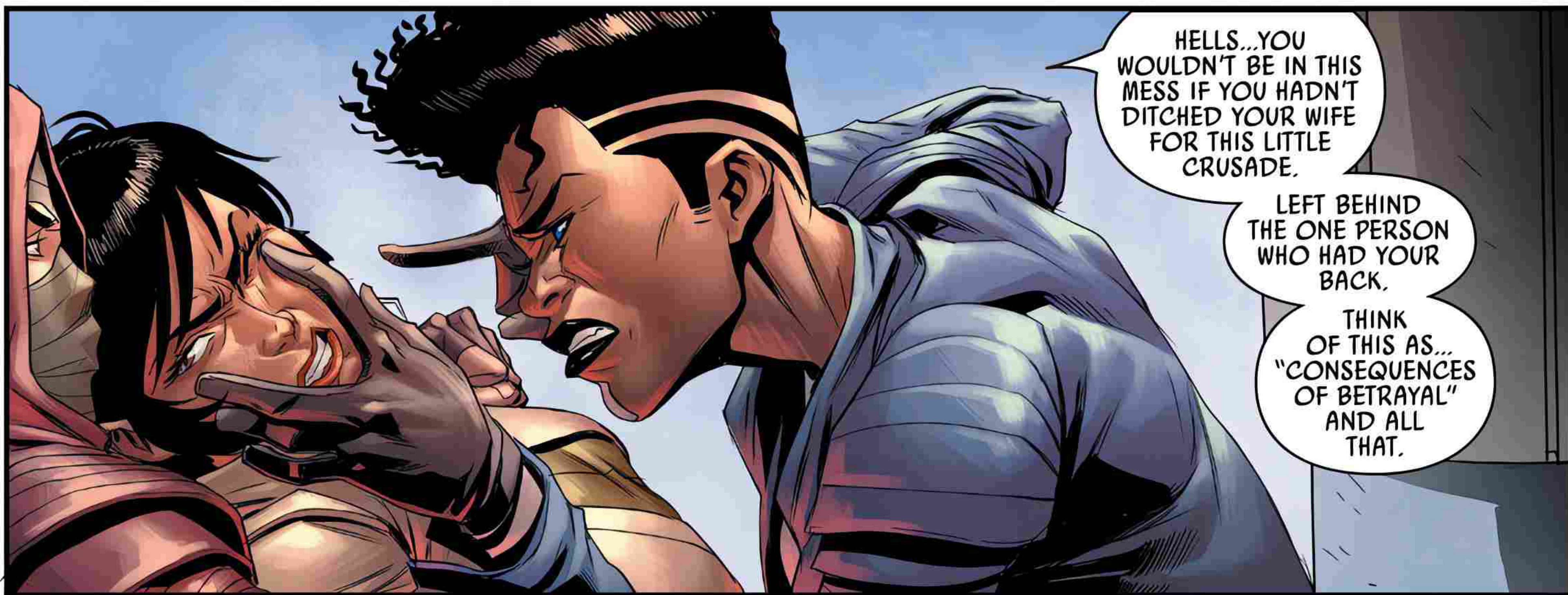


YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE TO WHINE ABOUT **LOYALTY**.

READY TO HAVE US ALL DIE OUT HERE FOR SOME **CYBORG** WHO MURDERED MY FRIEND?

WHERE WAS THIS ALLEGIANCE ALL THOSE YEARS AGO?

WHEN YOU ABANDONED MY CREW. WHEN YOU ABANDONED ME.



HELLS...YOU WOULDN'T BE IN THIS MESS IF YOU HADN'T DITCHED YOUR WIFE FOR THIS LITTLE CRUSADE.

LEFT BEHIND THE ONE PERSON WHO HAD YOUR BACK.

THINK OF THIS AS... "CONSEQUENCES OF BETRAYAL" AND ALL THAT.



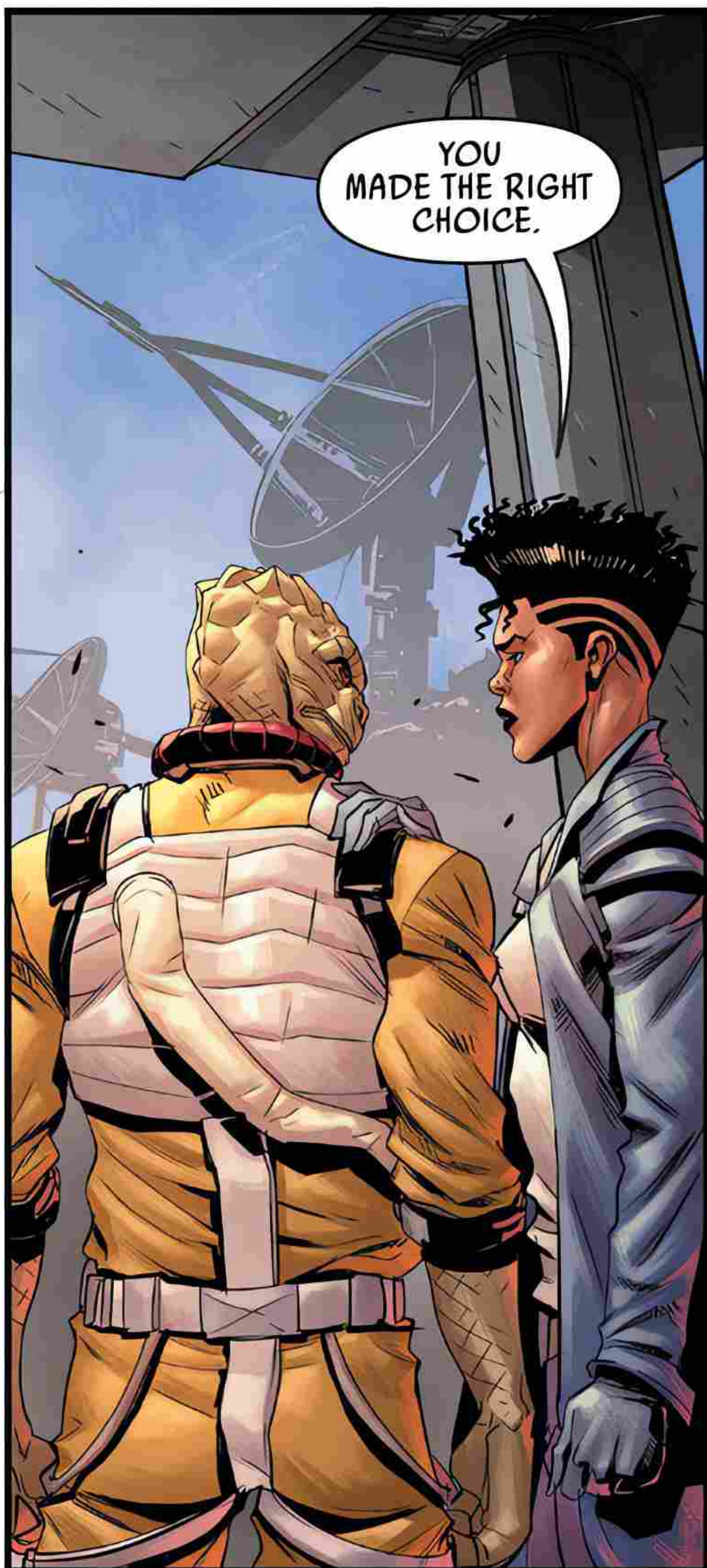
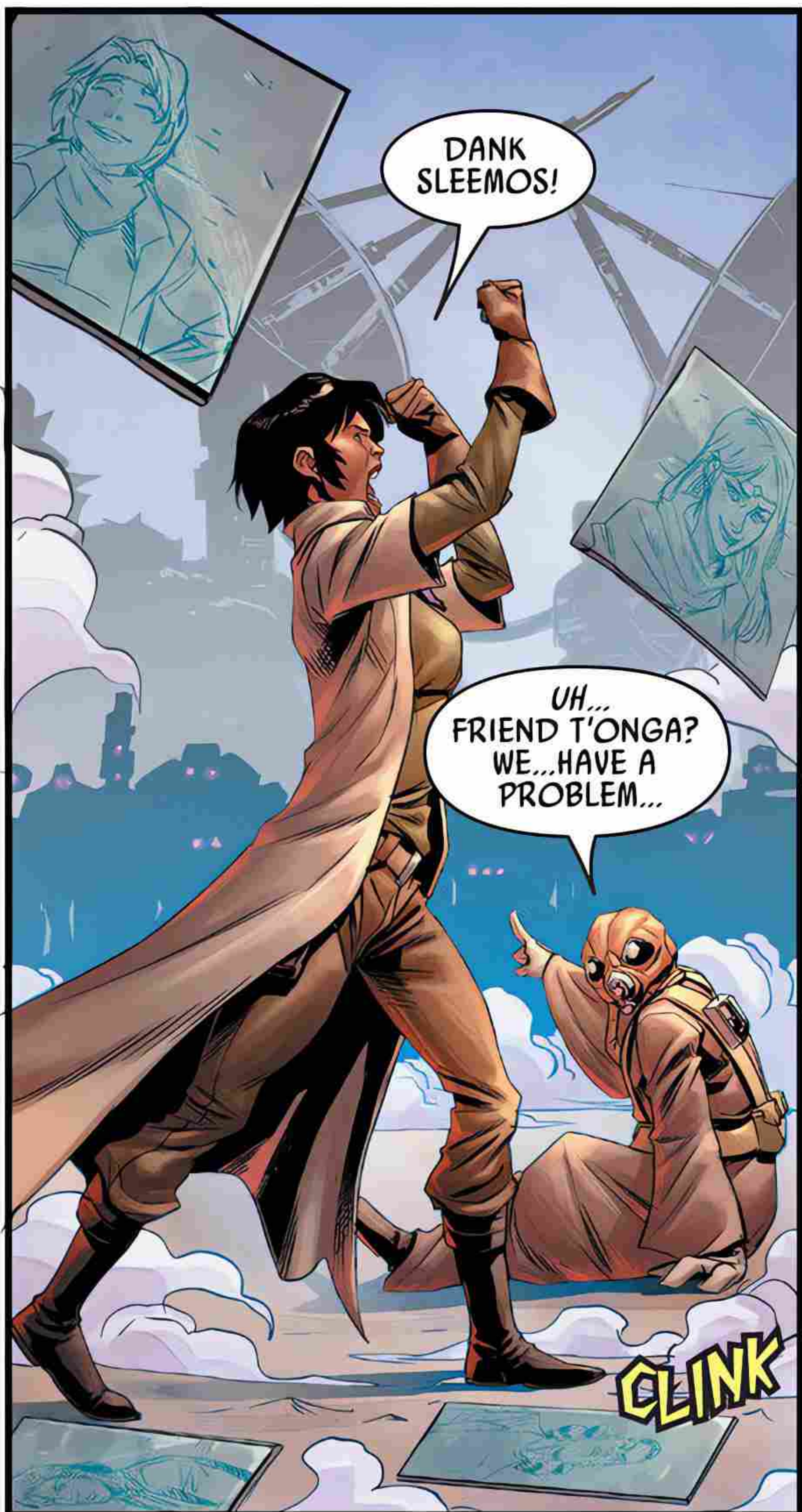
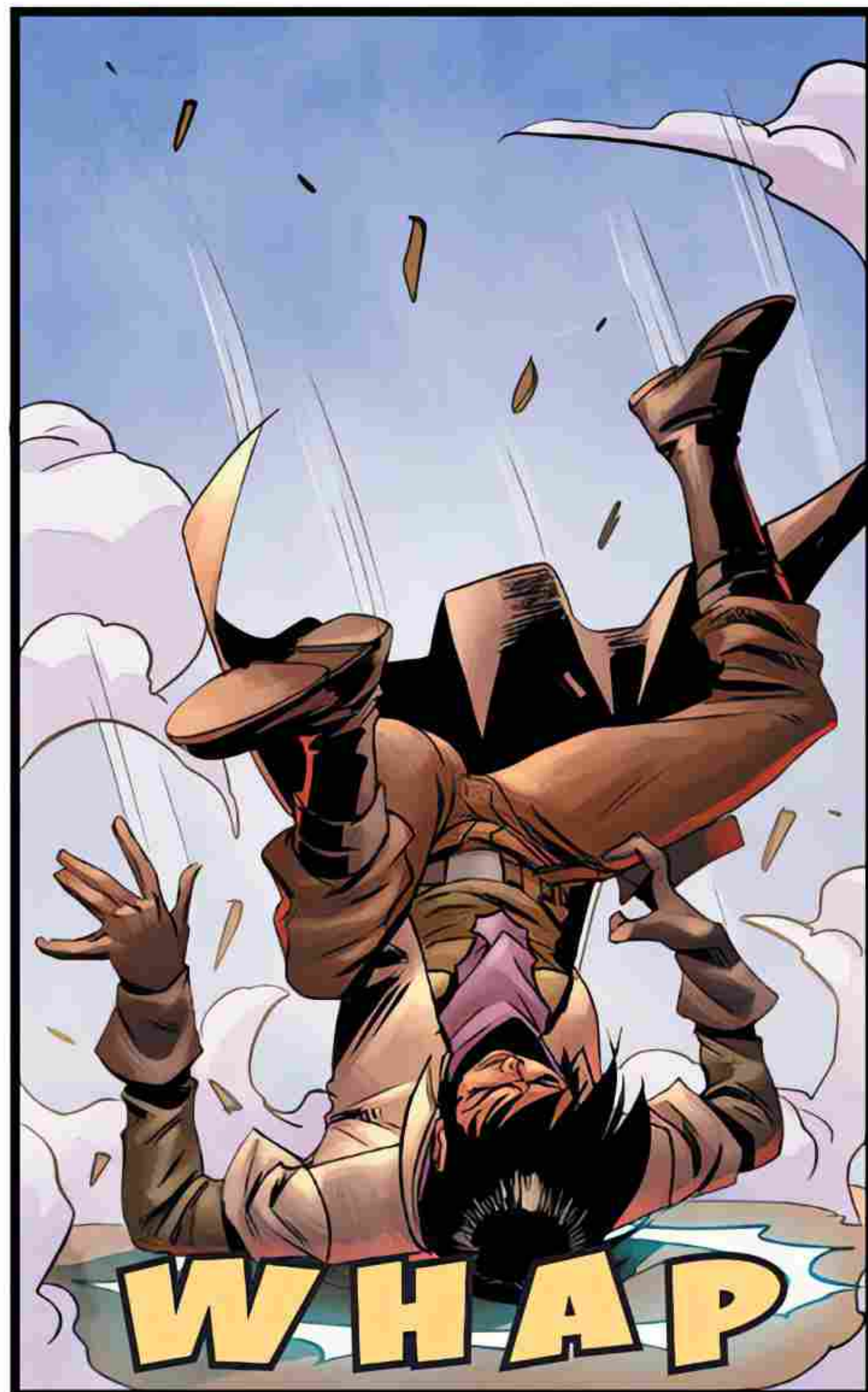
TAKING TOO LONG.

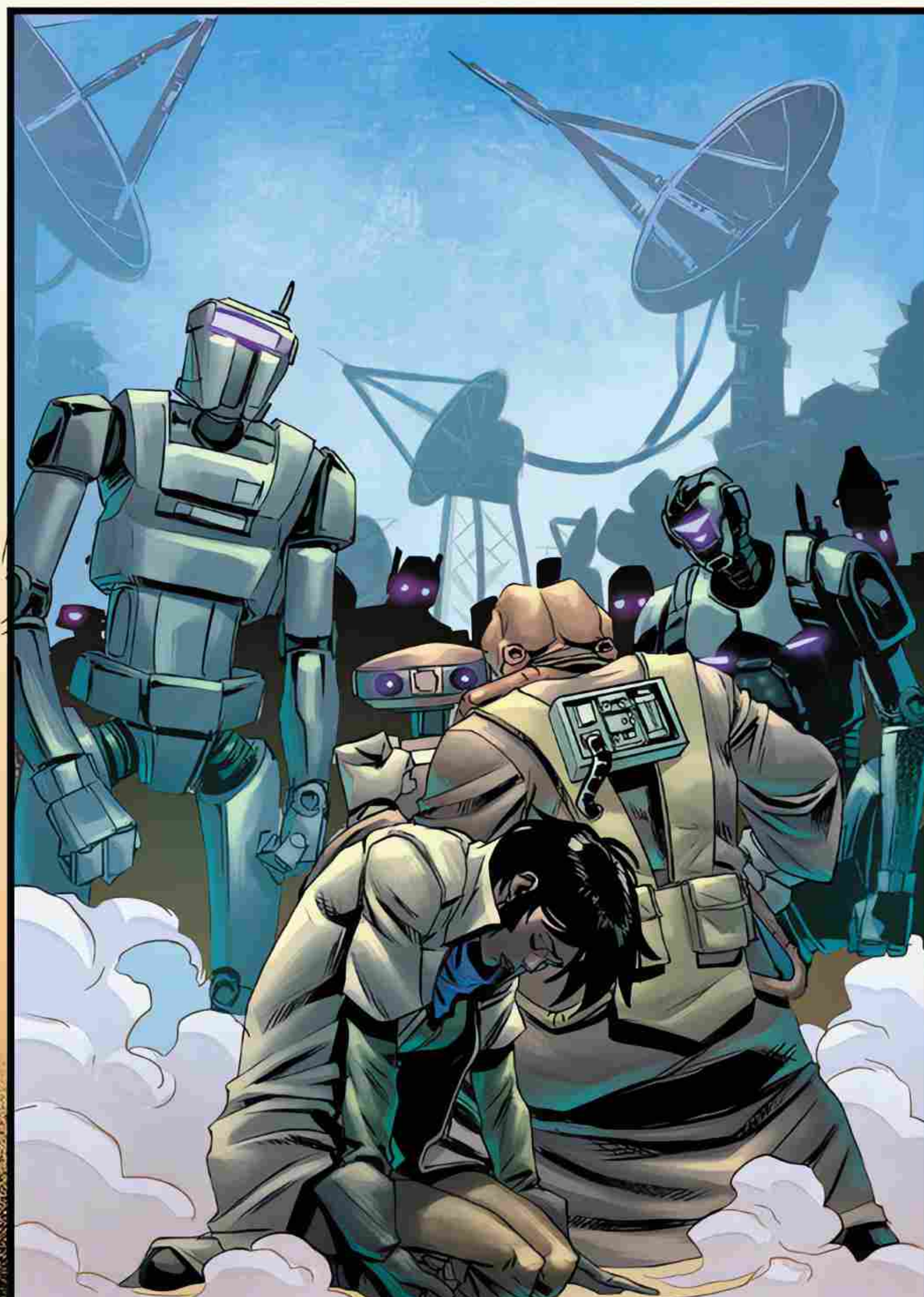
ZUCKUSS!

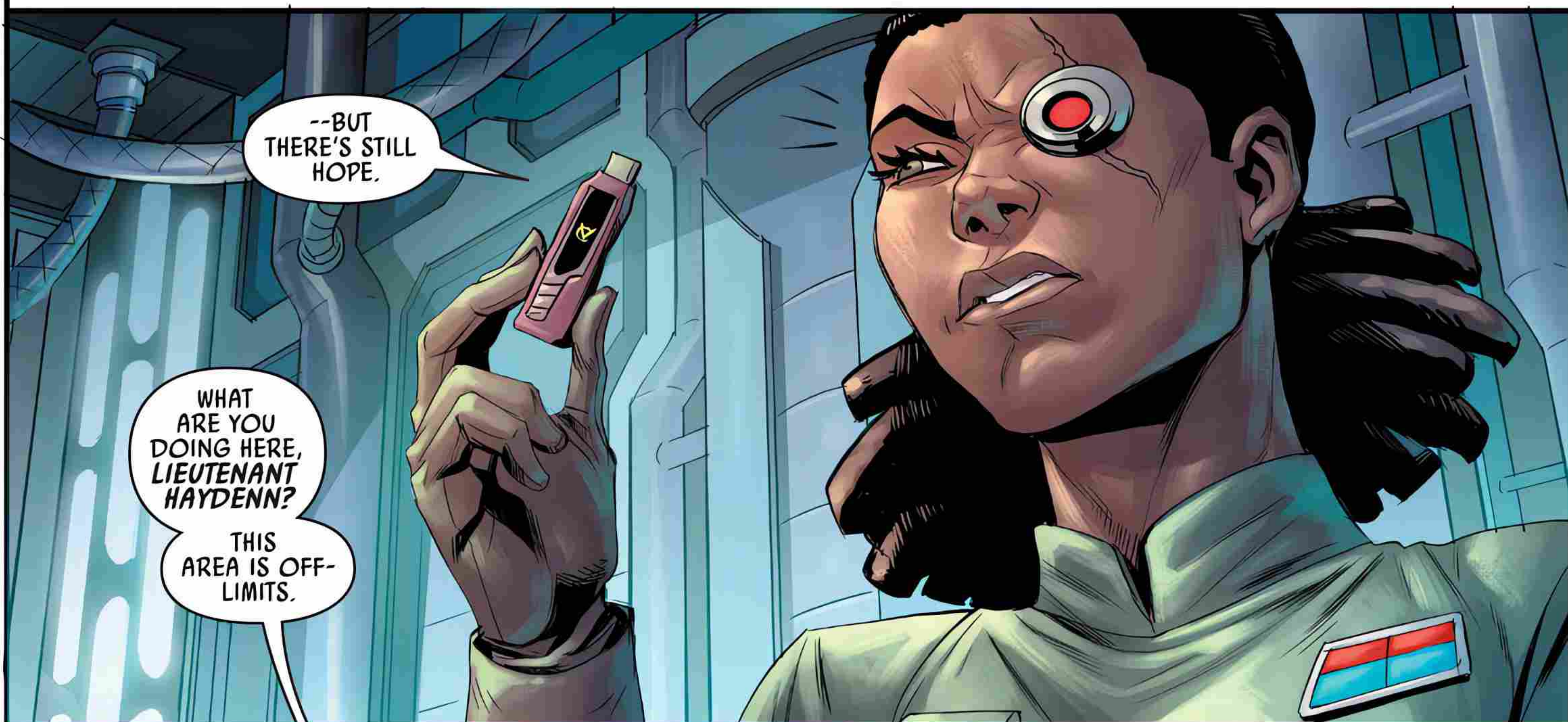
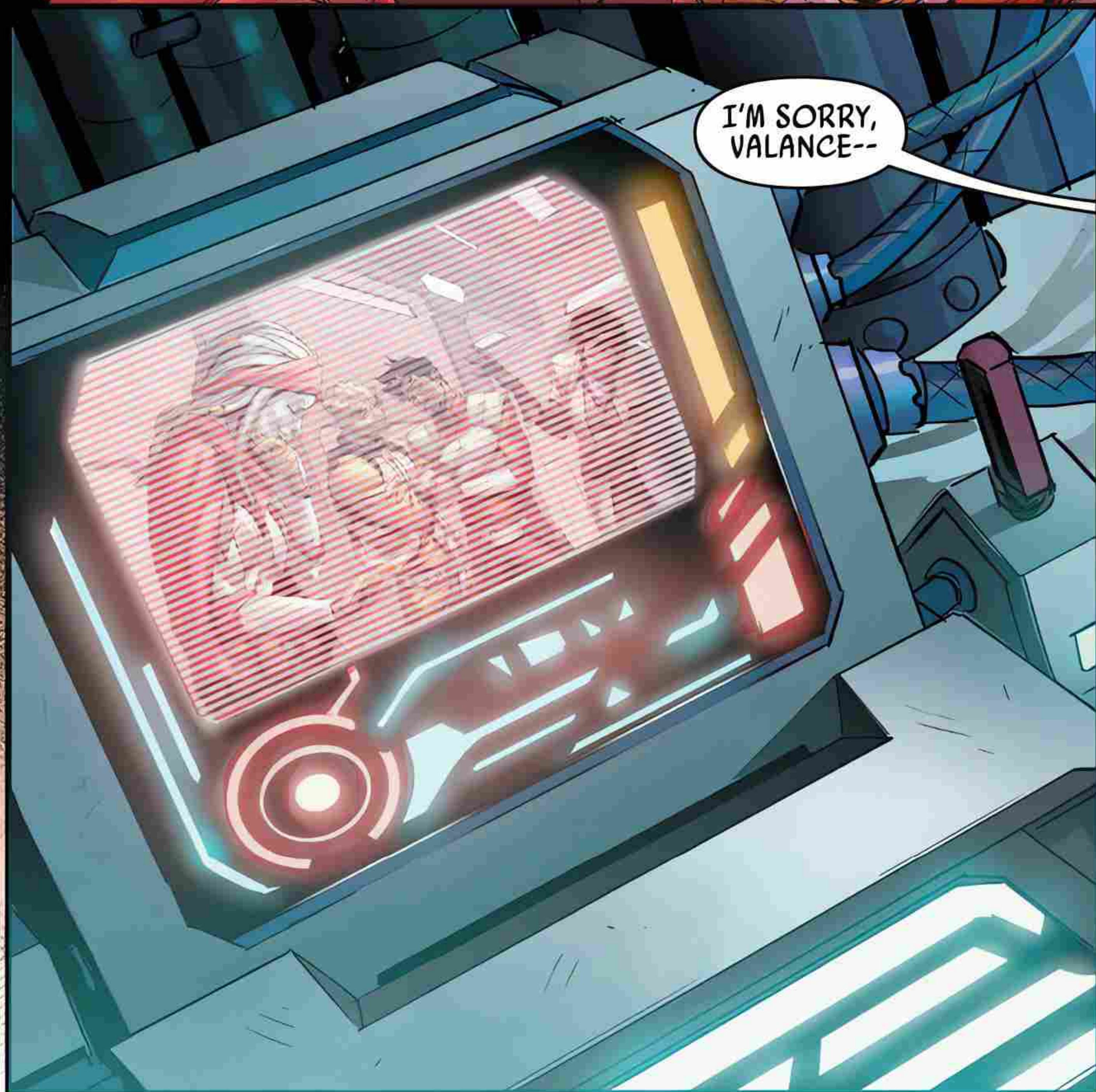


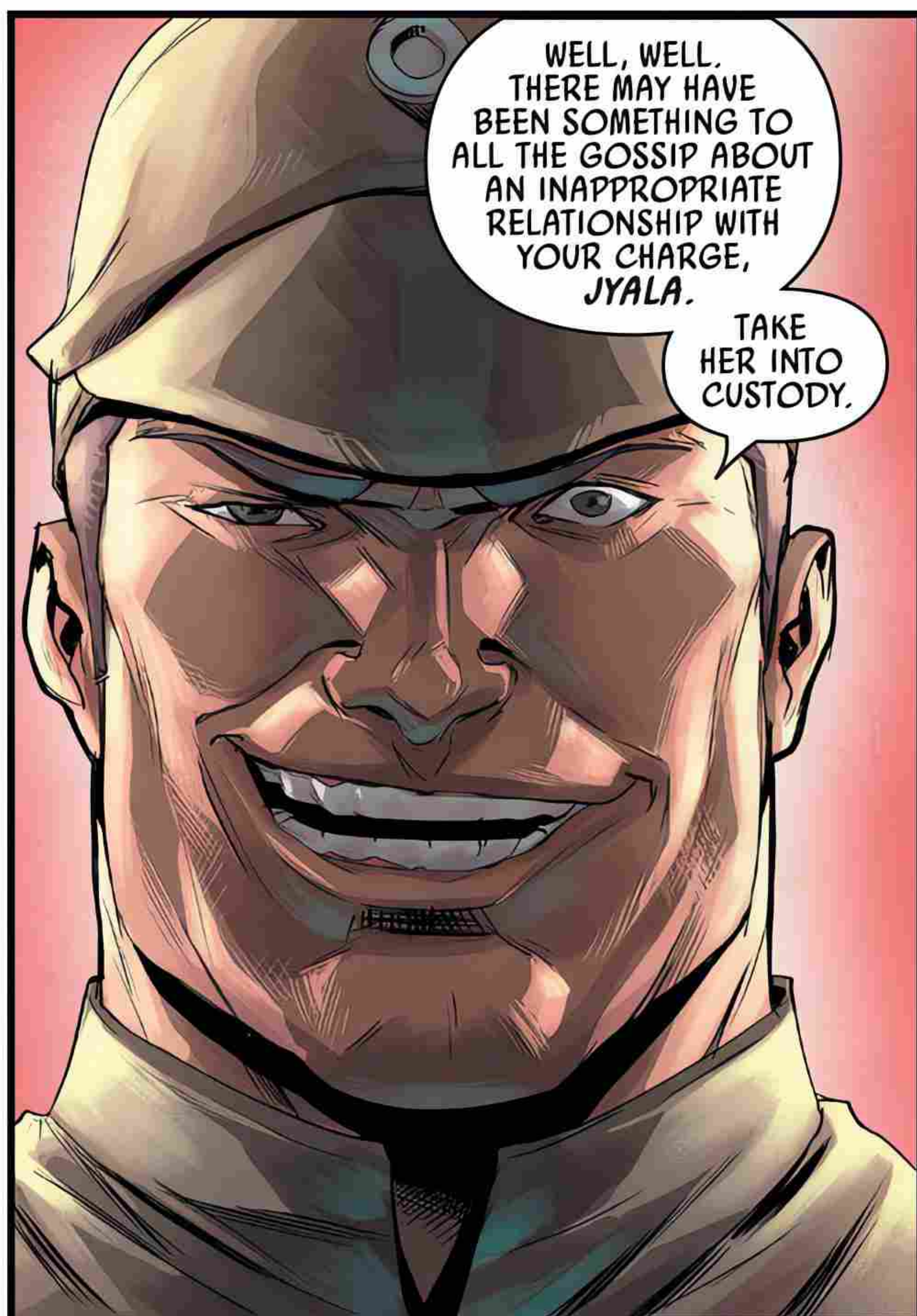
OOOF!

WHUMP

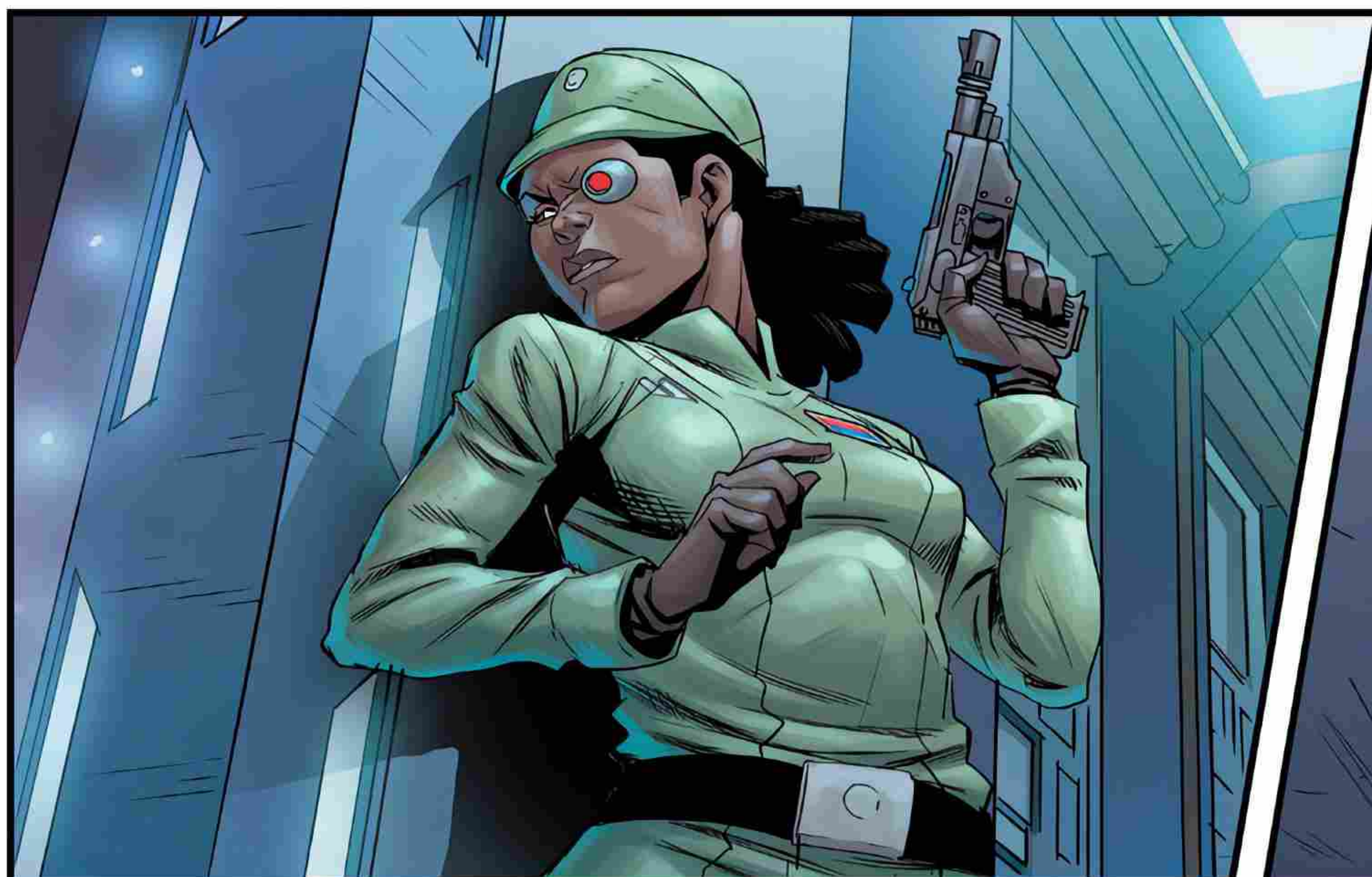
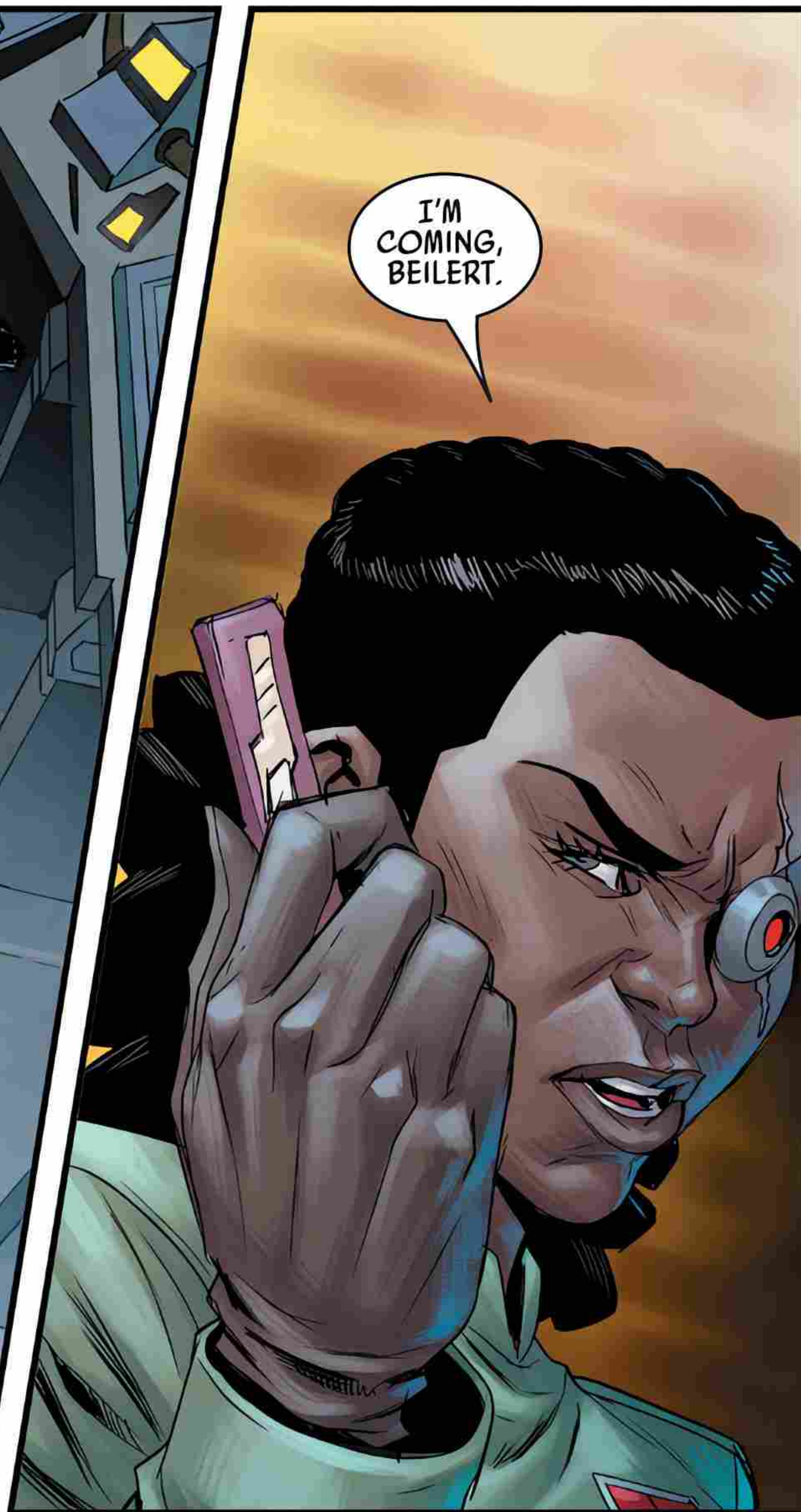














LORD
VADER...THIS IS A
MOST UNEXPECTED...
BUT PLEASANT
SURPRISE.

YOUR SHUTTLE
WILL BE REFUELED
MOMENTARILY.



IS
EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT,
MY LORD?



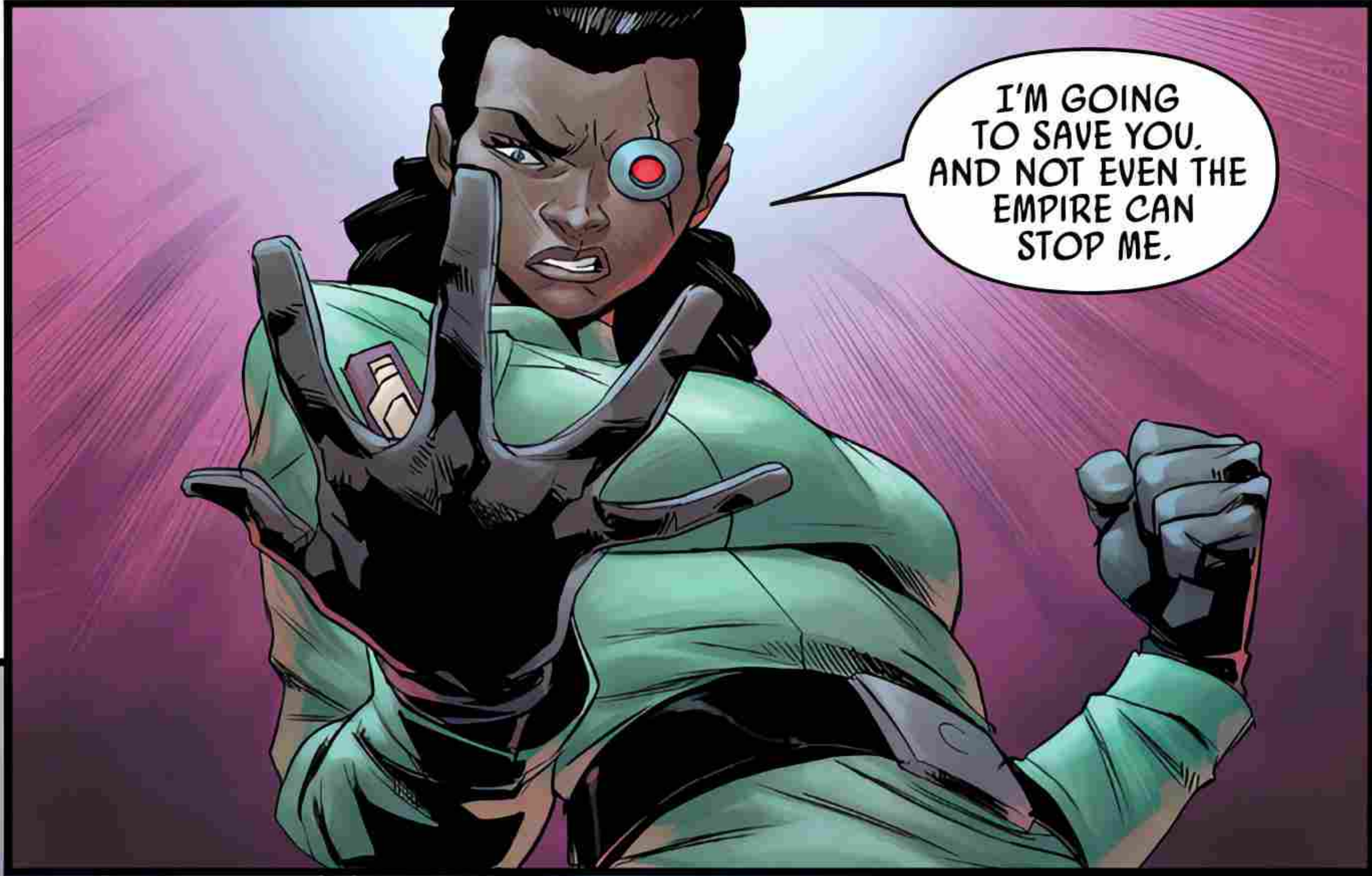
NOTHING
TO CONCERN
YOURSELF
WITH.

I HAVE
MORE PRESSING
MATTERS TO
ATTEND.*

*SEE DARTH VADER #40!

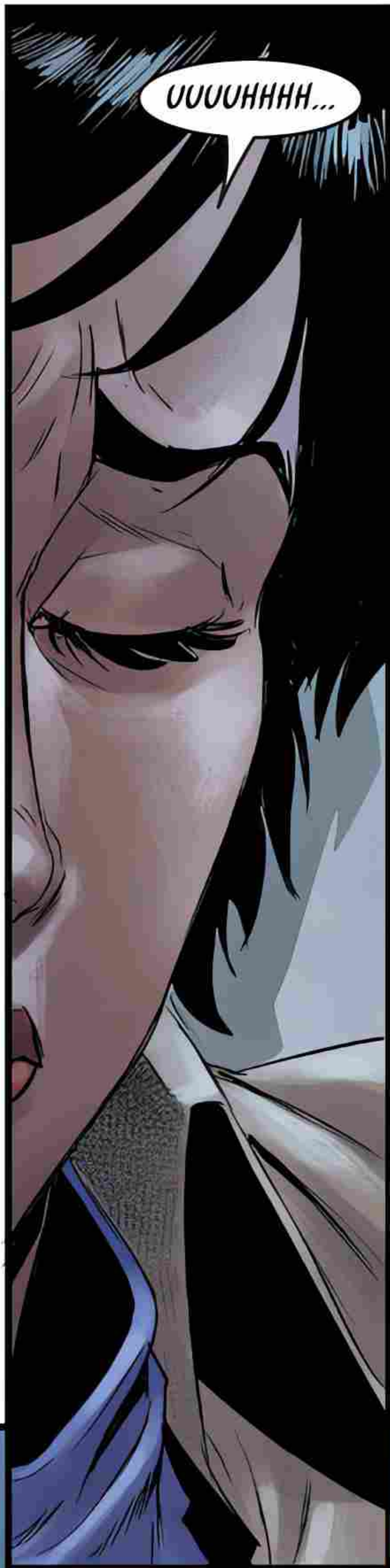


PHEWWWW.

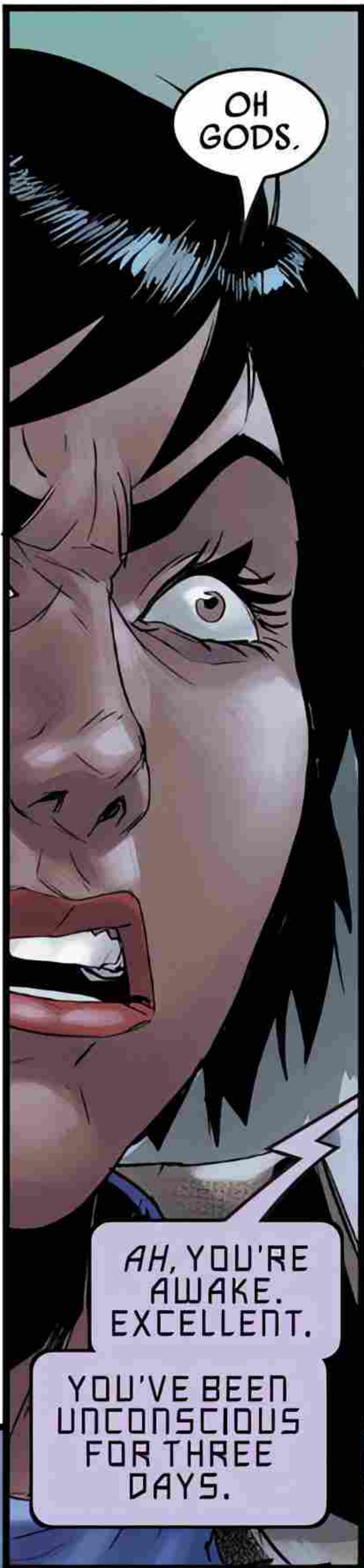


I'M GOING
TO SAVE YOU.
AND NOT EVEN THE
EMPIRE CAN
STOP ME.





UUUUHHHH...



OH GODS.

AH, YOU'RE AWAKE. EXCELLENT. YOU'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR THREE DAYS.



AND YOU NEED TO BE AWAKE FOR THIS PART.

V-V-VALANCE?

YOUR FRIEND VALANCE, AS YOU KNEW HIM, IS GONE.

BUT WE... I...AM SO MUCH MORE NOW. PART OF SOMETHING GREATER.

PART OF A NEW CONSCIOUSNESS.

ONE THAT IS READY TO TAKE THE FINAL STEP IN OUR...EVOLUTION.



AS YOU WILL SOON SEE. AS YOU WILL SOON JOIN.

FIRST WE CAME FOR THE METAL... NOW WE COME FOR THE MEAT.

To be concluded....

It's Coming for the Metal...

AUGUST:

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~~DARTH VADER 37~~
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~~BOUNTY HUNTERS 37~~

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